

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the instant application.

1-182. (canceled)

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183. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to Ser (69) - Ser (208) of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide binds to an antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide consisting of the amino acids ~~Ser (69) - Ser (208)~~ residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

184. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 183, having a Met residue at the N-terminus of said amino acid sequence.

185. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 183, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

186. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 183, which is produced in a recombinant cell.

187. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 186, wherein said recombinant cell is bacterial.

188. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 183, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

189. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to Ser (69) - Ser (208) of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide binds to an antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide consisting of the amino acids ~~Ser (69) - Ser (208)~~ residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

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190. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, having a Met residue at the N-terminus of said amino acid sequence.

191. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

192. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, which is produced in a recombinant cell.

193. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 192, wherein said recombinant cell is bacterial.

194. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 189, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

195. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 97% identical to Ser (69) - Ser (208) of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide binds to an antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide consisting of the amino acids Ser (69) - Ser (208) residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

196. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, having a Met residue at the N-terminus of said amino acid sequence.

197. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

198. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, which is produced in a recombinant cell.

199. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 198, wherein said recombinant cell is bacterial.

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200. (previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 195, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.